

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6142

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 10830

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, APUB

SUBJECT: SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOVIET GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

REF:(A) STATE 165580; (B) LENINGRAD 1059

1. WE SHARE CONGEN'S SATISFACTION THAT SENATOR BENNETT HAS REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE ON THE SOVIET EMBASSY'S REQUEST TO BE PLACED ON THE SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE'S MAILING LIST (REFTELS). WE ALSO SHARE CONGEN'S VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO TRY TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ELICIT SOME RECIPROCAL ACTION HERE. THE CONGEN'S DIFFICULTIES IN ACQUIRING PUBLICATIONS SUCH AS THE LENINGRAD CITY AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BULLETINS, FOR WHICH SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE PREVIOUSLY AVAILABLE, STRIKE US AS AN APPROPRIATE SPECIFIC CASE TO PRESENT TO THE SOVIETS IN WASHINGTON. (FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE LENINGRAD 348, NOTAL, WHICH WE ARE REPEATING TO DEPT).

2. EMBASSY HAS ALSO HAD ITS SHARE OF FRUSTRATIONS IN ATTEMPTING TO SECURE SOVIET GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS, BUT IN NO CASE WE RECALL HAVE WE BEEN UNABLE TO SUBSCRIBE TO SUCH PUBLICATIONS WHEN THEY WERE OTHERWISE AVAILABLE TO NORMAL SOVIET SUBSCRIBERS. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, WE (AND ORDINARY SOVIET SUBSCRIBERS) MAY ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS ONLY THROUGH SOYUZPECHAT'. IN GENERAL, SOYUZPECHAT' HANDLES ONLY CENTRAL REPUBLIC NEWSPAPER AND JOURNALS.
MATLOCK

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